

Dear Chairman Witt and Members of the Committee:

As a lifelong resident of Central Oregon, I urge you to vote no on HB 2795. In my 60 years of living and backpacking the most rural parts of Oregon, I have observed the effects of interference with the natural order.

Oregon banned the use of dogs in hunting cougars and there is no thoughtful reason to allow that practice to resume. I see no compelling argument that benefits either people or wildlife.

Hunting cougars is hard, that's always been true. If cougar overpopulation were present, it would be easy. Allowing hunters to use dogs is simply an excuse to make it easier to find the elusive, human avoiding cougar.

HB 2795 is a bill to assist hunters in achieving their psychological, "victory" and does not address any significant problem that exists today.

Thank you for your time and service to the people of Oregon.

Respectfully,

Don Hamon
Bend, OR

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